



Washington State Department of Agriculture News Release

For immediate release: June 21, 2005 (05-28)
Contact: Dr. Leonard Eldridge (360) 902-1881
Kate Sandboe (360) 902-1815

WASHINGTON STATE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
P.O. Box 42560, Olympia, Washington 98504-2560
Visit our Web site at: agr.wa.gov

WSDA encourages comment on National Animal Identification plan

OLYMPIA – The Washington State Department of Agriculture (WSDA) encourages Washington livestock producers and businesses to submit comments to the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) for its National Animal Identification System (NAIS) draft strategic plan and program standards.

“We hope everyone in the livestock industry in Washington will use this opportunity to give the USDA feedback about the program,” said Dr. Leonard Eldridge, the state veterinarian.

The comment period was recently extended to July 6. The draft strategic plan and draft program standards, in addition to information on how to submit comments, can be found online at <http://www.usda.gov/nais>.

While comments on any issues pertaining to the two documents will be considered, there are certain topics on which USDA would particularly like to solicit feedback from the public. These topics are outlined in the Advance Copy of Notice of Availability, which is also published on the Web site mentioned above.

For additional information on Animal Identification in Washington, go to www.agr.wa.gov and click on Food and Animals.

###